

Message Text

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SUBJ: CODEL HARTKE: BEALL MEETING WITH MINMARITIME
FLEET GUZHENKO

USDOC FOR MARAD

PARIS FOR MARITIME ATTACHE

1. SUMMARY IN APRIL 24 MEETING WITH SENATOR BEALL, MINISTER MARITIME FLEET GUZHENKO EXPRESSED GENERAL SATISFACTION WITH IMPLEMENTATION OF MARITIME AGREEMENT AND PREDICTED REMAINING UNDEFLE FRICTION SOVIET MARITIME RELATIONS WOULD BE ELIMINATED IN GOOD TIME. SAID PROCESS WOULD BE ADVANCED BY APPROVAL OF MFN. IN EXPLAINING WHY PARTIES HAVE NOT YET ACHIEVED MARITIME AGREEMENT TARGET OF CARRYING TWO- THIRDS OF BILATERAL TRADE (SOVIET FIGURES SHOW COMBINED SHARE NO MORE THAN 40 PERCENT TO DATE), GUZHENKO CITED CONTRACTS WITH THIRD- COUNTRY SHIPPERS SIGNED PRIOR TO AGREEMENT. SAID SOVIETS SOUGHT NO SPECIAL ADVANTAGE ON RATES. DISCUSSION WAS GENIAL THROUGHOUT WITH EVEN CHUMMY MUTUAL REFERENCES TO US- SOVIET GREAT POWER RESPONSIBILITIES. END SUMMARY.

2. SENATOR BEALL (R., MARYLAND) OF CODEL HARTKE PAID 45-
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MINUTE CALL APRIL 24 ON MARITIME FLEET MINISTER T. B. GUZHENKO. ALSO PRESENT WERE MARITIME MINISTRY FOREIGN RELATIONS CHIEF I. AVERIN, MINISTRY PROTOCOL CHIEF L. PALADICH, SENATE COMMERCE COMMITTEE STAFF AIDE, AND EMBASSY ECON/ COMMERCIAL OFFICER. MEETING INITIALLY SCHEDULED WITH AVERIN ALONE, BUT ON APRIL 23 (FOLLOWING CODEL MEETING WITH BREZHNEV) BEALL WAS TOLD HE WOULD BE RECEIVED BY MINISTER.

3. IN COURSE OF VERY CORDIAL CONVERSATION DEVOTED IN LARGE PART TO MUTUAL EXPRESSIONS OF GOODWILL, GUZHENKO DECLARED HIS GENERAL SATISFACTION WITH IMPLEMENTATION OF MARITIME AGREEMENT. SAID BOTH SIDES DOING THEIR BEST TO MEET OBLIGATIONS; NEITHER COULD FAULT OTHER'S CONDUCT IN THIS REGARD. WHILE NOTING THAT US- SOVIET MARITIME RELATIONS STILL SUBJECT TO CERTAIN UNDESIRABLE RESTRICTIONS, SUCH AS 40- PORT LIMIT AND CERTAIN IN- PORT RESTRICTIONS (NOT SPECIFIED), GUZHENKO SAID HE WAS HAPPY WITH PROGRESS TO DATE. HE EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE THAT REMAINING RESTRICTIONS, LEGACIES OF THE WAR, WOULD BE ELIMINATED IN GOOD TIME.

4. ASKED ABOUT IMPLEMENTATION OF CARGO- SHARING PROVISION OF MARITIME AGREEMENT, GUZHENKO SAID INCOMPLETE FIGURES INDICATED NOT MORE THAN FORTY PERCENT OF BILATERAL TRADE HAD BEEN CARRIED IN SOVIET AND US TONNAGE SINCE SIGNATURE OF AGREEMENT, MORE THAN FIFTY PERCENT IN THIRD- COUNTRY TONNAGE. FAILURE OF COMBINED US AND SOVIET SHARES TO REACH TWO- THIRDS LEVEL CONTEMPLATED IN AGREEMENT COULD BE ATTRIBUTED IN PART TO RESIDUAL EFFECT OF CONTRACTS CONCLUDED PRIOR TO SIGNATURE OF AGREEMENT, PERHAPS ALSO IN PART TO RATES AND TERMS. BEALL ASKED WHETHER RATE STRUCTURE WOULD PERMIT ACHIEVEMENT OF TWO- THIRDS TARGET ONCE ALL PRE- AGREEMENT CONTRACTS HAD BEEN COMPLETED. WHILE NOT ANSWERING DIRECTLY, GUZHENKO SAID PROBLEM OF RATES COULD BEST BE DEALT WITH BY FOLLOWING GENERAL INTERNATIONAL SHIPPING PRACTICE AND THAT SOVIETS SOUGHT NO SPECIAL ADVANTAGES.

5. GUZHENKO TURNED DISCUSSION TO CONGRESSIONAL CONSIDERATION OF MFN BY COMMENTING THAT APPROVAL OF MFN FOR USSR WOULD EASE PROGRESS OF DETENTE IN MARITIME FIELD AS WELL. BEALL EXPLAINED THAT MEMBERS OF CONGRESS HAD LINKED MFN TO ADMITTEDLY " REMOTELY" RELATED QUESTION OF SOVIET EMIGRATION POLICY IN ORDER TO " PROTECT" THEMSELVES POLITICALLY ON AN ISSUE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WHICH HAD AROUSED GREAT CONCERN AMONG THEIR CONSTITUENTS. IN LIGHT OF PREVIOUS DAY'S MEETING OF CODEL WITH BREZHNEV, HOWEVER, CONDITIONS APPEARED " FAVORABLE" FOR ELIMINATION OF THE BASIS OF THAT CONCERN. GUZHENKO WARNED THAT WHILE VIEWS OF NARROW OPPOSITION ELEMENTS MIGHT BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT (SIC), THEY COULD NOT BE PERMITTED TO INHIBIT THE MOVEMENT TOWARD INCREASED COOPERATION THAT ECONOMIC LOGIC DICTATED AND BROAD

CONSTITUENCIES IN BOTH COUNTRIES DESIRED. DISCUSSION OF
SUBJECT CONCLUDED WITH AGREEMENT ON RESPONSIBILITY OF THE
TWO GREAT POWERS TO CREATE FRAMEWORK WITHIN WHICH THEY AND
LESS FAVORED MEMBERS OF WORLD COMMUNITY COULD LIVE IN EVER-
LASTING PEACE.

6. OTHER SUBJECTS OF GENIAL DISCUSSION WERE POSSIBILITY OF
SISTER- CITY RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN BALTIMORE AND ODESSA AND
INVITATION GUZHENKO SAID HE HAD EXTENDED TO PRESIDENT NIXON,
AT TIME OF MARITIME AGREEMENT SIGNING, FOR JULIE EISENHOWER TO
SAIL ON MIKHAYL LERMONTOV ON ITS FIRST TRIP FROM NEW YORK TO
LENINGRAD, WHICH GUZHENKO SAID IS SCHEDULED FOR MAY 28.
(LATTER SUBJECT WAS MENTIONED IN CONTEXT OF EXCHANGE OF
PLEASANTRIES AND DID NOT SEEM TO BE SERIOUS REPETITION OF
INVITATION REQUIRING RESPONSE.) DUBS

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